

Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), for Institutional Delivery;
 Appointment of an Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) for every village;
 Operationalising Community Health Centres as First Referral Units (FRU);
 Training of MBBS Doctors in Life Saving anesthetic Skills and Emergency Obstetric Care;
 Prevention and treatment of Anemia;
 Organizing of Village Health & Nutrition Day at Anganwadi center;
 Supplementary nutrition to pregnant and lactating women under the ICDS Scheme.

In order to prohibit child marriages, a new legislation "The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006" (No. 6 of 2007) has been enforced w.e.f. 1.11.2007. Also, awareness generation and advocacy measures are continuously being undertaken by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in this connection.

Short stay homes for women and girls

1075. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the scheme for Short Stay Homes for women and girls is being implemented in Goa;
- (b) if so, the essential features of the scheme;
- (c) the financial assistance given to the State/organizations since commencement of the scheme, year-wise; and
- (d) the targets achieved, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are available on the website of the Ministry of Women and Child Development at www.wcd.nic.in.

(c) Amount released to Voluntary Organisations in Goa during the last five years under the scheme, which was initiated in the year 1969, is as under:

Year	Amount released
2002-2003	Rs. 3,50,197/-
2003-2004	Rs. 2,45,444/-
2004-2005	Rs. 3,87,390/-
2005-2006	Rs. 63,219/-
2006-2007	Rs. 2,92,433/-

- (d) No State-wise targets are envisaged/set, since this is an ongoing scheme.

Status on malnutrition

1076. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that, as per the recent lancet study, there is no paucity of nutrition champions in the country, yet statistics on nutrition continue to be awful;

(b) whether it is also a fact that among the 20 countries, where four-fifths of all undernourished children live, India is home to the largest number of undernourished children;

(c) whether the last round of the National Family Health Survey shows that malnutrition has reduced by just one per cent during the last eight years; and

(d) if so, the action proposed in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir. India has a number of eminent scientists in the field of nutrition. However, Malnutrition is a multifaceted problem, the determinants of which vary from food insecurity, female illiteracy, poor access to health-care, safe drinking water, sanitation and poor purchasing power. Early marriages of girls, teenage pregnancies resulting in low birth weight of the new borns, poor breast feeding and complementary feeding practices, ignorance about nutritional needs of infants and young children and repeated infections further aggravate the situation.

(b) As per the Lancet's Series on Maternal and Child Malnutrition, 80% of the World's undernourished children live in just 20 countries but the country wise information is not available.

(c) As per National Family Health Survey (NFHS) -2 (1998-99) conducted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 47% children are underweight while NFHS-3 (2005-06) has reported that 46% children are underweight. This data is as per the National Centre for Health Statistics (NCHS) standards. However, as per New WHO Growth Standards, 43% children are underweight according to NFHS-2, while 40% children are underweight as per NFHS-3.

(d) The Government is seized of the problem of malnutrition and is implementing a number of schemes throughout the country, which directly or indirectly improve the nutritional status of women and children. Some of these are as under:

- (i) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme (Ministry of Women and Child Development);

The steps taken in the recent past to increase the effectiveness of the delivery of services under ICDS includes:

The scheme has been expanded twice in the year 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

The Government has doubled the financial norms for supplementary nutrition from Re. 1 to Rs. 2/- per beneficiary per day.

From the year 2005-06, 50% cost of supplementary nutrition is also being shared with the States/UTs.

Constant emphasis on States to:

Ensure regular supply of supplementary nutrition as per schematic norms.

Ensure effective convergence of health, nutrition, education and safe drinking water services under various programmes.

Generate nutrition awareness.

- (ii) National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid Day Meal Scheme) (Department of School Education & Literacy);
- (iii) Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free foodgrains to undernourished adolescent girls (Ministry of Women & Child Development);
- (iv) Nutrition Education and Training Programmes of Food and Nutrition Board (Ministry of Women & Child Development);
- (v) Reproductive and Child Health (RCH-II) Programme under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) including:
(Ministry of Health & Family Welfare):

Maternal Health by promoting institutional deliveries, improved coverage and quality of Ante Natal Care (ANC), skilled care to pregnant women, Post-partum care at Community level.

Immunization.

Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses and Malnutrition. Emphasis on Infant & Young Child Feeding.

Specific Programmes to prevent and combat micronutrient deficiencies of Vitamin A and Iron & Folic Acid through Vitamin A Supplementation for children till the age of 5 years and Iron & Folic Acid Supplementation for preschool children, pregnant and lactating women.

- (vi) National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare);
- (vii) Targetted Public Distribution System (Department of Food & Public Distribution);
- (viii) Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme/Swajaldhara and Total Sanitation Campaign; National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (Ministry of Rural Development);

Universalisation of ICDS

1077. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India ranks 94 in the Global Hunger Index, mainly because of prevalence of under nourishment in children, who are supposed to be future asset of the country; if so, by when Government is going to universalize the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme; and

(b) what steps have been taken for improvement of condition of Anganwadi Workers who are driving force to run the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir. India ranks 94th in the Global Hunger Index (GHI), the indicators for which are the proportion of undernourished as a percentage of the population, the prevalence of underweight in the children under the age of five and under five mortality rate. It is to meet this challenge that the Government, in pursuance of its commitment to universalize the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme as envisaged in the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP), has